

For Immediate Release October 28, 2005

For Additional Information John Bristol, 505.761.8700

## BLM Welcomes Comments on Plan for Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument

ALBUQUERQUE – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released the Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review and comment. It provides alternatives for managing the natural and cultural resources and uses in the national monument. Careful review and comments are needed from the public to ensure that public concerns are considered in the planning process.

In order for comments to be considered, written comments must be postmarked no later than (February 3, 2006) ninety days following the publication of the Notice of Availability by the Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register.

The plan is available at the BLM office at 435 Montano Rd NE in Albuquerque, New Mexico and can be accessed electronically at the following website: http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state\_info/planning.htm.

The public can help by submitting comments on the alternatives and the adequacy of the impact analysis when they address one or more of the following:

- Errors in the analysis;
- New information that would have a bearing on the analysis;
- Misinformation that could affect the outcome of the analysis;
- Requests for clarification; and/or
- A substantive new alternative whose mix of allocations differs from any of the existing alternatives.

To be considered, all comment submissions must include a legible full name and street address. Anonymous comments will not be considered. Written comments may be mailed directly, or delivered to the BLM at:

-more-



Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument Draft RMP/EIS BLM Rio Puerco Field Office 435 Montaño Road NE Albuquerque, NM 87107-4935

Comments may be faxed to the BLM at: (505) 761-8911 or electronically mailed to: **NM\_Comments@nm.blm.gov**. Comments that are e-mailed or faxed must include "Comments on Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument DRMP/EIS" in the subject line. Comments may also be submitted electronically by accessing the BLM's planning website at **http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state\_info/planning.htm**.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Albuquerque address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays), and may be published as part of the EIS process. If you wish to withhold your name or street address, or both, from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Open house meetings will be scheduled, during the week of December 12, 2005, to provide the public additional opportunities to submit written comments on the Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument Draft RMP/EIS.

After considering public comments on this Draft RMP/EIS, the BLM will select the Proposed Plan. The plan can be any one alternative or a mixture of the actions and prescriptions from various alternatives. The agency will then release the Proposed RMP/Final EIS to the public, including responses to public comments received on the draft document.

Designated by Presidential Proclamation in 2001, Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument is located in north-central New Mexico in the foothills of the Jemez Mountains on the Pajarito Plateau, in Sandoval County. It lies about 35 miles southwest of Santa Fe and 52 miles northeast of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

